

Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2008

Paul Branson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m.

Attending: Janet Abelson, Ken Altenburger, Steve Belkin, Joe Bischofberger, Eleanor Bloch, Myrtle Braxton, Richard Burnett, David Grant, Eugene Halliday, Rich Hedges, Julio Lacayo, Marshall Loring, Joshua Miele, Doug Weir, and Craig Yates. Members reported as unavailable: Barbara Rhodes, Dennis Trenten, Shirlee Zane.

Audience Member Self-introductions

- Alec MacDonald, Bay Area Monitor
- Elsa Ng, UCB
- Ben Reinhart, UCB
- Sean Ladiges, UCB
- Sara Veth, UCB
- Leslie Lara, UCB
- Joanna Pallock, WCCTAC

EDAC Minutes

Feb. 7, 2008 minutes were moved by Ms. Abelson, seconded by Mr. Hedges, and unanimously approved.

Advisory Council Report

Mr. Grant's report on the council's Feb. 13 meeting focused on evaluating transportation for livable communities projects and what is reasonable to expect livable communities projects to look like.

EDAC Subcommittee Reports

Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee Chair Burnett reported that today he and Mr. Trenten were respectively elected chair and vice-chair. Included in their meeting was drafting bill language to guide first responders in assisting the population referred to as special needs.

Members made announcements and raised various topics: (a) a request to test ride a new 12-passenger SamTrans vehicle, (b) a request for a meeting with 511 Transit staff to discuss dropdown menus, interface changes, (c) report on a proposed overhead cable transport system in Marin Co., (d) report on a ‘transit camp’ to learn about trip-planning software emerging from Silicon Valley for advancing transit technology.

Chair’s Report

Chair Branson noted Mr. Oka’s departure from EDAC to serve on the board of the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency. In Mr. Oka’s absence, EDAC’s Access-Service Issues Subcommittee will be led by Chair Branson. Also, he noted that turnout was low at a recent joint advisor meeting; Chair Branson encouraged members to attend the next joint advisor meeting (Mar. 11).

Staff Report

Ms. Vogler announced T-2035 meeting dates (the Apr. 3 meeting changed to Apr. 8 at 1pm). Also announced: today’s additional EDAC subcommittee meetings (Senior Driver Issues and Pedestrian Safety).

Caltrans’ Call for Projects for FTA Programs

Christina Atienza presented the process and schedule for two Caltrans calls for projects (a) Section 5310 program - vehicles for those with special needs where other public transit is unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate, and (b) New Freedom - for new service above and beyond ADA’s minimum requirement in small urbanized and rural areas. Mr. Yates said Marin Co. PCC assists applicants to enhance their submittals. Chair Branson said that also occurs in Contra Costa Co. Following member queries about various eligibility criteria, Mr. Miele asked if geographical constraints are based on geographical location of the provider or of the project; Ms. Atienza said the project.

Chair Branson objected to Caltrans’ decision to exclude mobility management from the 5310 call for projects.

Ms. Atienza encouraged New Freedom application submittals because Caltrans is seeking to program all available funds, notwithstanding their slated geographic target amounts.

Lifeline Program Overview

Therese Knudsen presented for Ms. Yeamans (out of town), providing not only background on the planning and funding components, goals, outcomes, next steps (will go before various stakeholders) but also answering member queries. As follow-up, Ms. Knudsen was to send members the PowerPoint presentation, a list of projects in each round, and clarify a question about the three cycles.

Discussion of T-2035 Joint Advisor Workshops

Ms. Vogler sought confirmation that members still agreed with the Vision Policy Statement read by Ashley Nguyen at the last EDAC meeting. Member response: the statement conveyed most of EDAC's sentiments and would like to support the statement, especially to remain team players. Members decided to send Mr. Hedges and Mr. Loring as EDAC envoys to the Planning Committee communicating EDAC's statement.

Discussion turned to T-2035 policy ideas, which were derived from the project ideas discussed over the last few months. Ms. Vogler had separated out EDAC-related policy ideas from the great project list, for discussion at the meeting. Included in the subsequent discussion was the requirement of TOD townhomes to be both internally and externally accessible. The Transportation and Land Use subcommittee had vetted the idea several months before and the information had been presented to MTC's Planning Committee. The same previously agreed-upon language will be forwarded as part of the Joint Advisors discussion later this month. Also discussed was extension of the three-quarter mile distance (3/4 mi. being "the law, not the limit") for paratransit, which was resolved by changing the wording to "improve service" (vs. expand it).

A vote was taken to determine members' top four project ideas, which were (1) creating uniformity for audible traffic signals, (2) TODs, as noted above, (3) accessible taxis, (4) pedestrian safety.

Other Business

Chair Branson proposed future agendas reserve 5 minutes for announcements (to keep meetings running smoothly), reassuring that announcements are welcome. One member suggested the ability to have a

“rant box” (25 words or less). Another suggested giving 20 seconds per member at the beginning of meetings to make announcements. The agreed upon tack was the reservation of five minutes to ask questions and make requests, toward the beginning of the meeting.

Next Meeting: 4/3/08; Adjournment: 12:30PM.